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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 66 NUMBER 26

SUGAR--Trade (Page 559) ALMONDS (Page 567)
DAIRY PRODUCTS--First Quarter, 1953
RICE--Exportable Supplies (Page 580)

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CONTENTS

Page

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

U.S. Cotton Exports Lower in April........................ 578

FATS, OILS AND OILSEEDS

Switzerland's Fats and Oils Imports May Increase: Good Market for U.S. Tallow.................................. 576
Australia's Coconut Oil Production Down Slightly........... 577

FOREIGN TRADE

U.S. Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products During April, 1953.. 564

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

Foreign Shelled Almond Production Below Last Year.......... 567

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

World Exportable Rice Supplies Increase in 1953............. 580
U.S. Rice Exports Continue at High Level................... 584
Burma Increases Rice Acreage for Harvest in 1953-54......... 585
Netherlands Reports Reduced Wheat Acreage Increased Coarse Grain Area.. 585
Japan's Grain Outlook Still Indicates Large Grain Crops.. 586

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

World Production of Dairy Products, First Quarter, 1953.. 571
World Butter and Cheese Prices............................. 574

SUGAR

International Trade in Sugar in 1952....................... 559

TOBACCO

Venezuela May Suspend Tobacco Production.................... 575
Ethiopia Eases Coffee Export Regulations.................... 575

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Transshipments of Mexican cotton through United States ports in March totaled 91,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), 43,000 of which were shipped to Japan. The August-March 1952-53 total of 690,000 bales includes Japan 303,000, Belgium 91,000, Western Germany 69,000, Netherlands 63,000, United Kingdom 48,000, Spain 20,000, Italy 15,000, Finland 14,000, Switzerland 14,000, Sweden 13,000, and France 8,000. The above statistics do not include direct exports from Mexico to countries of destination nor transshipments to Canada by United States railroads.

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The Argentine Government announced on May 31 an initial export quota of 10,000 metric tons (46,000 bales) of cotton from the 1952-53 crop (harvest completed in May). At the same time, the export quota for 1951-52 cotton was increased by an equal amount to 60,000 tons (276,000 bales). A sharp decline in mill consumption in 1952-53 was the principal factor responsible for the increase in old-crop export surplus.

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The export of cotton from Brazil is limited to old-crop stocks except when new-crop (1952-53) cotton is required to meet foreign demand for higher grades not available from old stocks. In this case exporters may include new-crop cotton up to 30 percent of the quantity involved in a contract when buying old-crop cotton from the Bank of Brazil for export orders.

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Cotton exported from Iraq is now subject to a 20 percent export tax (since May 7, 1953). The Istihlak or consumption tax, previously 10 percent, was originally levied (1933) on the value of all land produce except certain items listed in Article 3. The recent amendment was intended to reduce the cost of living in Iraq by abolishing the tax on most items consumed locally and increasing the tax on the portions exported. The principal items on which the export tax of 20 percent now applies are cotton (ginned or unginned), cottonseed, vegetables, fresh and dried fruits, and gallnuts. The rate was raised to 15 percent on tragacanth gum and licorice root and to 12.5 percent on dates, date juice, and barley.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SUGAR IN 1952

World exports of centrifugal sugar 1/ reached 12.6 million short tons, raw value, during calendar year 1952, compared with the 12.4 million tons of 1951, the average 9.4 million tons for 1945-49 and the average 11.5 million tons for 1935-39.

On the basis of conditions prevailing today, it is estimated that, of the total world exports in 1952, 5.1 million tons may be considered as exports to the free market, compared with about 5.0 million tons in 1951, the 1945-49 average of 3.5 million tons and the prewar average of 5.1 million tons. These estimates include only that portion of exports from iron curtain countries, including Eastern Germany, destined to western areas.

Exports of centrifugal sugar from areas of North and Central America 1/ declined from 7.5 million short tons, raw value, in 1951 to 7.2 million tons in 1952 as Cuban exports during this period decreased by 468 thousand tons. Imports during 1951 and 1952 increased from 4.2 million tons to 4.5 million tons, the increase being reflected primarily in the increased imports of the United States and Canada. Thus, net exports from North and Central America decreased by approximately 500 thousand tons from 1951 to 1952.

Western European exports of centrifugal sugar during calendar 1952 approximated those of 1951 (1.5 million short tons, raw value) while imports of Western European areas declined by almost 250 thousand tons. This decline of imports is reflected chiefly in the imports of the United Kingdom and Western Germany.

Eastern European exports of centrifugal sugar reportedly increased from 408 thousand tons in 1951 to 542 thousand tons in 1952. The U.S.S.R. reportedly shipped 85 thousand tons in 1952 compared with 100 thousand tons exported in 1951.

The increase of Asia's exports of centrifugal sugar from 1.0 million short tons, raw value, in 1951 to 1.4 million tons in 1952 is reflected chiefly in the increased exports of Formosa and the Republic of the Philippines. At the same time, imports increased from 1.5 million tons in 1951 to 2.0 million tons in 1952 as Japan increased imports of sugar by almost 600 thousand tons. Thus, available data indicate an increase of 191 thousand tons in net imports into Asia during 1952. (However, it is believed that net imports did not increase so greatly during 1952. Nonofficial reports indicate that Indian Union and Pakistan figures for 1951 exclude imports under government account while Japanese imports shown for 1951 are believed to exclude over 100 thousand tons.)

1/ Excluding the movement of sugar between the United States and territories.

SUGAR, centrifugal, raw value: International trade, averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1951 and 1952

Continent and country	Averages 1935-39 Exports	Averages 1935-39 Imports	Averages 1945-49 Exports	Averages 1945-49 Imports	1951 Exports	1951 Imports	1952 1/ Exports	1952 1/ Imports
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
NORTH AMERICA:								
British Honduras	0	623	0	586	0	475	2/ 534	3/ 520
Canada	1,621	484,659	5,558	515,943	1,270	547,191	5,692	611,335
Costa Rica	808	661	3,501	2,527	0	6	6,050	15
El Salvador	3,031	290	6,553	254	3,349	10,750	1,451	2,687
Guatemala	1,876	2	88	5	0	646	0	14,494
Greenland	0	826	0	735	0	1,319	0	3/ 36
Honduras	0	4/ 6,289	0	6,181	0	9,943	0	4,362
Mexico	1,496	220	66,173	44,928	35	26	9,394	20
Miquelon and St. Pierre	29	271	-	229	-	202	-	5/ 205
Nicaragua	3,528	5	2,162	6/ 213	9,748	-	8,544	-
Panama	0	6/ 2,956	58	1,840	5,372	13	7/ 10	3/ 5
Panama Canal Zone	-	4,135	-	4,314	-	2,139	-	3/ 806
United States	92,500	2,999,032	178,151	3,424,061	114,243	3,665,742	130,263	3,858,466
CARIBBEAN:								
Antigua	24,436	277	20,135	-	18,362	-	34,000	-
Bahamas	0	1,750	0	1,524	0	2,519	0	2,683
Barbados	100,243	-	102,362	-	171,093	37	162,924	18
Bermuda	0	1,530	0	1,176	0	3/ 2,046	0	3/ 2,100
Cuba	2,871,267	0	5,245,347	0	5,981,471	0	5,513,775	0
Dominica	0	520	0	1,411	0	2,200	0	3/ 2,700
Dominican Republic	480,207	523	450,192	68	531,713	9	626,000	-
Grenada	0	565	0	1,373	0	112	0	- 393
Guadeloupe	53,721	69	52,993	0	78,830	0	102,863	0
Haiti	38,126	59	25,163	2	39,172	9	33,458	1,599
Jamaica	101,100	0	165,352	0	238,465	0	223,387	0
Martinique	58,354	0	24,428	0	50,147	0	36,768	0
Montserrat	0	588	0	6/ 574	0	733	0	750
Puerto Rico (to other than United States)	0	0	0	0	52,286	0	143,896	0
Netherlands Antilles	-	4,183	-	6,168	-	3,800	-	-
St. Kitts	33,547	436	34,331	203	43,167	120	56,380	-
St. Lucia & St. Vincent	8,562	565	6,169	517	9,772	-	9,260	68
Trinidad and Tobago	140,161	431	104,680	-	130,281	-	128,156	-
Total North America	4,014,613	3,511,465	6,493,396	4,014,832	7,478,776	4,250,037	7,233,248	4,503,262

EUROPE:								
Austria	6/ 24	6/ 594	6/ 488	6/ 58,654	0	55,918	0	40,104
Belgium & Luxembourg	119,744	158,515	21,343	59,038	180,715	109,412	82,570	98,612
Channel Islands	-	2,406	-	3,184	-	3,475	-	3,303
Denmark	14,742	13,712	64,773	0	98,860	12,389	99,284	2,989
Faeroe Islands	0	50	0	944	0	1,431	0	-
Finland	0	115,944	0	67,852	0	128,631	0	145,191
France	262,175	405,772	125,730	209,514	257,150	139,245	357,362	396,492
Germany, Western Zone	-	4/ 556,000	-	247,938	308	661,749	447	494,051
Greece	0	84,854	0	57,600	0	115,828	0	81,086
Iceland	0	6,274	0	5,452	0	7,581	0	3,010
Ireland	0	39,184	0	22,207	0	86,329	0	73,671
Italy	19,605	26,718	258	89,879	7	37,429	-	23,330
Malta and Gozo	0	11,500	0	7,904	0	9,953	0	9,368
Netherlands	64,473	162,018	6/ 74,485	183,931	124,917	371,098	162,808	397,810
Norway	23	111,917	912	95,504	-	107,749	-	130,401
Portugal	47	76,870	66	98,612	4	108,411	-	129,799
Spain	6/ 2	6/ 56	6/ 13,958	20,710	8,053	27,629	5,440	19,047
Sweden	219	8,769	7,206	33,733	0	78,264	0	76,365
Switzerland	877	183,840	1,295	148,866	991	178,280	1,202	162,093
Trieste	0	0	0	6/ 5,661	0	5,613	0	4,900
United Kingdom	404,678	2,462,840	398,072	1,890,896	868,496	2,552,262	810,197	2,310,718
Yugoslavia	1	1,265	10,148	22,660	5,452	51,843	20,132	0
Total above	886,610	4,429,098	718,734	3,330,739	1,544,953	4,850,519	1,539,442	4,602,340
Total other Europe	930,638	49	7/ 153,000	0	7/ 408,000	0	7/ 542,000	0
Total Europe	1,817,248	4,429,147	871,734	3,330,739	1,952,953	4,850,519	2,081,442	4,602,340
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)	115,000	-	-	-	7/ 100,000	-	7/ 85,000	-
ASIA:								
Aden	15,076	20,049	8,225	13,354	10,733	19,579	4,060	9,957
Cyprus	0	4,027	0	4,351	-	6,840	-	6,310
Iran 4/	-	92,674	2	107,373	-	127,000	-	130,000
Iraq	269	47,723	0	55,188	0	89,769	0	106,000
Israel (Palestine)	0	29,059	0	32,000	0	28,716	0	-
Lebanon	461	34,897	6/ 227	32,792	1	19,375	0	2,950
Syria					74	21,762	0	40,382
Trans -Jordan	-	6/ 3,654	-	11,843	-	-	-	-
Turkey	0	29,726	1,983	12,309	0	0	0	0
Afghanistan 4/	0	9,289	0	6/ 5,338	0	3,000	-	3,000
British Borneo	-	10,282	-	9,288	-	11,089	-	7,256
British Malaya	0	129,398	0	96,989	0	156,767	0	190,086
Burma	4/ 1,254	4/ 16,499	-	4/ 4,644	-	13,213	-	10,000
Ceylon	69	87,673	0	101,594	0	159,041	543	137,607
China (Incl. Manchuria)	4	333,675	6/ 34,032	6/ 12,761	-	-	-	-
Hong Kong	112,045	162,232	19,490	39,782	0	20,920	0	29,898
India	43,993	124,998	6/ 4,844	6/ 6,028	1,376	12,976	12,524	10,635
Indonesia	1,033,090	2,001	29,912	6/ 1,077	6,973	4,557	994	1,118
Indochina	2,355	1,530	192	9,931	5/ 3,020	41,712	5/ 5,469	5/ 38,217

Continued - - -

SUGAR, centrifugal, raw value: International Trade, averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1951 and 1952

Continent and country	Averages 1935-39 Exports	Averages 1935-39 Imports	Averages 1945-49 Exports	Averages 1945-49 Imports	1951 Exports	1951 Imports	1952 1/ Exports	1952 1/ Imports
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
ASIA: (continued):								
Japan	6/ 195,533	6/ 1,067,738	-	232,776	106	4/ 559,123	-	4/ 1,154,638
Korea	6/ 33,246	6/ 55,574	-	6/ 78,446	0	4,956	0	8,806
Pakistan	8/	8/	-	6/ 123,500	-	165,000	-	120,000
Philippines, Republic of	892,549	156	143,432	6,000	679,289	-	856,338	1
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,027,323	2,925	161,255	-	326,668	3,163	518,495	-
Thailand	64	40,644	496	5,865	-	6,000	-	29,000
Total Asia (excl. U.SSR)	3,357,331	2,306,423	404,090	1,003,229	1,028,240	1,474,558	1,398,421	2,035,861
SOUTH AMERICA:								
Argentina	9,570	936	1,705	13,343	0	0	0	0
Bolivia	0	27,769	0	34,410	0	40,107	0	48,188
Brazil	51,630	1	116,644	0	22,580	0	50,967	0
British Guiana	200,437	56	163,817	14	201,917	33	262,320	48
Chile	12	140,914	0	169,206	0	190,294	0	200,000
Colombia	5	13,360	2,131	7,399	57,908	34	3,816	30,062
Ecuador	94	9,008	-	6,673	10,000	-	0	-
French Guiana	0	638	0	696	0	567	0	5/ 230
Paraguay	0	6,623	0	818	0	0	0	-
Peru	327,361	438	333,454	-	293,357	-	317,075	-
Surinam	13,804	255	75	417	0	2,971	-	-
Uruguay	0	59,330	0	80,987	0	100,526	0	71,516
Venezuela	-	26	0	33,883	0	56,484	0	33,809
Total South America	602,913	259,354	617,826	349,846	585,762	391,016	634,178	383,853
AFRICA:								
Algeria	12	91,585	3	88,263	55	156,538	196	156,000
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	0	37,055	0	36,133	0	72,625	0	107,105
Belgian Congo (Incl. Ruandi Urundi	12,638	608	6,587	28	4	2,746	5	164
British East Africa	16,052	176	13,486	969	489	27,355	0	29,145
Nyasaland	-	955	-	3,996	-	4,813	-	-
Zanzibar	-	5,570	-	4,236	-	5,254	-	3,354
Bechuanaland	-	6/ 900	-	902	-	336	-	1,732
British Somaliland	-	6,564	-	3,715	-	5,514	-	1,198
Gambia	-	854	-	899	-	1,858	-	2,000
Sierra Leone	-	953	-	1,838	-	2,347	-	2,000
St. Helena	-	217	-	175	-	256	-	-
Cape Verde Islands	-	1,540	-	2,150	-	1,682	-	-
Egypt	78,561	61,857	10,245	17,312	1,180	2,118	345	167,012
Eritrea & It. Somaliland	6/ 563	6/ 8,118	6/ 196	6/ 478	-	4,362	-	10,225
Ethiopia	-	-	-	6,093	-	13,000	-	-
French Cameroun	-	494	-	1,028	-	3,426	-	5/ 2,098
French Eq. Africa	-	1,064	-	2,874	-	9,173	-	5/ 4,995

French Morocco	11,552	198,618	13,269	119,838	28,742	246,707	30,691	283,491
French Somaliland	-	6/ 2,007	-	729	-	3,540	-	3/ 709
French West Africa	-	22,983	-	19,752	-	54,629	-	50,789
Togo	-	729	-	658	-	2,815	-	5/ 1,057
Gold Coast	-	7,572	-	7,303	-	17,558	-	16,000
Liberia	-	6/ 224	-	6/ 405	-	635	-	-
Libya	-	12,397	-	6,234	-	12,770	-	17,513
Madagascar	9,955	1,568	2,344	4,167	31	139	176	3,391
Mauritius	311,472	0	327,651	0	557,349	0	517,802	0
Mozambique	88,685	20	63,250	-	63,523	5	75,486	-
Nigeria and Cameroons	0	9,184	0	4,977	0	13,201	0	16,236
Northern Rhodesia	0	1,569	0	3,704	0	7,968	0	8,779
Angola	33,240	-	42,665	1	35,443	-	43,602	1
Portuguese Guinea	0	797	0	372	0	1,632	0	-
Sao Tome and Principe	0	6/ 212	0	359	0	561	0	-
Reunion	82,978	2	92,753	-	123,380	-	150,961	-
Seychelles Islands	-	933	-	1,029	-	668	-	1,334
Southern Rhodesia	1,490	10,606	4,472	21,730	8,304	40,412	10,515	5/ 33,248
South West Africa	0	4,432	0	9,560	0	12,203	0	11,114
Tangier, Int'l. Zone	0	6/ 2,456	-	6/ 3,728	-	5,950	-	-
Spanish Morocco	0	25,233	0	10,774	-	10,000	-	5/ 5,889
Tunisia	-	39,768	6/ 22	39,877	-	70,080	-	53,401
Union of South Africa	235,313	1,477	51,445	7,321	72,793	484	11,263	5,712
Total Africa	882,511	561,287	628,388	433,607	891,293	815,410	841,042	995,692
OCEANIA:								
Australia	4/ 470,793	84	4/ 273,176	-	326,347	-	271,210	-
Australian Territories	-	4/ 725	-	4/ 1,989	-	3,406	-	3,428
Fiji Islands	147,627	-	114,153	-	81,710	195	97,000	5/ 243
French Oceania	-	696	-	1,907	-	3,991	-	5/ 1,388
New Caledonia	-	1,796	-	2,000	-	2,529	-	5/ 1,490
New Zealand	1,373	91,621	468	95,369	417	104,048	539	109,121
South Sea Islands	66,911	225	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Samoa	-	6/ 636	-	6/ 1,540	-	600	-	901
Other Bri. Pacific Is.	-	320	-	895	-	1,522	-	-
Total Oceania	686,704	95,378	387,797	101,711	408,474	112,885	368,749	113,143
Total World (incl. USSR)	11,506,320	11,163,779	9,403,231	9,235,953	12,445,498	11,897,831	12,642,080	12,637,579
U.S. Trade with territories	3,777	1,875,568	5,650	1,712,055	6,537	1,906,666	7,311	1,960,767
Puerto Rico	907,579	39	968,405	514	959,231	577	982,860	692
Hawaii	963,318	741	739,625	706	941,129	700	971,610	700
Virgin Islands	4,671	0	4,025	1,198	6,306	1,092	6,297	1,211
Alaska	-	2,997	-	3,232	-	3,000	-	3,000
Guam	-	-	-	-	-	1,030	-	1,503
American Samoa	-	-	-	-	-	109	-	161
Wake Island	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	44
Total	1,879,345	1,879,345	1,717,705	1,717,705	1,913,203	1,913,203	1,968,078	1,968,078

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Reexports. 3/ Estimated on basis of exports from certain exporting countries. 4/ Crop year. 5/ Incomplete. 6/ Less than 5-year average. 7/ Estimated on basis of imports into known areas. 8/ Included in India's estimate.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

South American exports in 1952 increased to 634 thousand tons as imports declined slightly. Total net exports of South America increased from 195 thousand tons in 1951 to 250 thousand tons in 1952. Brazil, British Guiana and Peru increased exports while Colombian exports declined by 54 thousand tons.

African exports of centrifugal sugar decreased to 841 thousand tons in 1952 and imports increased to almost 996 thousand tons as Africa changed once again to the position of a net importer. Primary factors in this trade balance situation include Egypt's large imports in 1952, increased imports into French Morocco and decreased exports from the British areas of Mauritius and the Union of South Africa.

Net exports of Oceania declined from 295 thousand tons in 1951 to almost 256 thousand tons in 1952, as Australian exports decreased by 55 thousand tons. This decline of exports was offset in part by increased exports from Fiji. Imports of the area increased slightly in 1952.

The movement of sugar between the United States and its territories totaled almost 2.0 million tons in 1952 or 55 thousand tons more than the 1951 total. -- By F.G. Thomason, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

U. S. FOREIGN TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING APRIL 1953 [1]

United States agricultural exports continued to decline during April, 1953, the tenth month of fiscal 1952-53, amounting in value to $223,535,000, a reduction of 11 percent compared with the $250,574,000 worth exported in March. During the month of April a year ago, our agricultural exports were valued at $296,785,000.

The country's April exports of all commodities, agricultural as well as nonagricultural, were valued at $1,379,199,000, an overall increase of 1 percent compared with the $1,367,978,000 sent abroad during March. Agricultural products constituted 16 percent of the total outward movement during the month compared with 18 percent in March and with 22 percent in April a year ago.

On a dollar-value basis, wheat and wheat flour continued as the nation's most important agricultural export during the month under review, but with shipments valued at only $58,910,000, a reduction of 21 percent compared with the $74,333,000 worth sent abroad during March and of 38 percent compared with the $95,032,000 worth exported in April last year. Cotton continued in second place, but with exports valued at only $37,813,000, a reduction of 16 percent compared with the $44,764,000 worth exported in March and of 48 percent compared with the $72,486,000 worth exported in April a year ago. Third place was held by leaf tobacco, exports of which reached $33,103,000 in value during April, an increase of 26 percent compared with the $26,358,000 worth exported in March and almost 3 times the April 1952 exports which were valued at only $11,549,000.

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[1] More complete details than presented in this summary will be published in U. S. Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products for April 1953, available on request from Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected agricultural products, during April 1952 and 1953

Commodity exported	Unit	April			
		Quantity		Value	
		1952	1953	1952	1953
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Butter	Lb.	211	40	161	32
Cheese	Lb.	257	224	131	115
Milk, condensed	Lb.	2,301	1,969	560	501
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	2,499	3,824	1,377	2,184
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	4,415	8,073	767	857
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	8,296	8,827	1,364	1,381
Eggs, dried	Lb.	474	188	216	133
Beef and veal, total 1/	Lb.	892	1,794	338	480
Pork, total 1/	Lb.	7,997	5,210	2,000	1,382
Horse meat	Lb.	1,613	1,597	219	273
Lard	Lb.	51,552	40,675	6,923	4,730
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	58,049	90,066	4,298	5,095
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmfd, excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	345	218	72,486	37,813
Apples, fresh	Lb.	8,391	3,847	572	393
Grapefruit, fresh	Lb.	17,444	14,006	543	506
Oranges, fresh	Lb.	68,329	82,008	2,913	3,074
Pears, fresh	Lb.	175	292	20	44
Prunes, dried	Lb.	5,059	3,265	607	556
Raisins and currants	Lb.	6,388	11,242	654	850
Fruits, canned	Lb.	6,939	7,798	1,156	1,242
Fruit juices	Gal.	2,361	1,891	1,742	1,743
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	1,958	743	3,260	1,194
Barley malt (34 lb.)	Bu.	347	353	899	889
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	7,476	8,715	15,020	15,317
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	9,461	43	15,941	75
Rice, milled, (excl. paddy)	Lb.	128,408	109,501	10,869	10,934
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	36,154	24,725	87,507	51,958
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,351	1,311	6,457	6,081
Flour, not wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	196	160	1,068	871
Hops	Lb.	337	1,123	253	929
Peanuts, shelled	Lb.	74	63	35	32
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,507	1,793	4,562	5,575
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	15,324	2,454	2,094	379
Soybean flour, edible	Lb.	617	430	45	30
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	1,433	963	348	404
Tobacco, bright flue-cured	Lb.	12,137	44,675	7,662	29,903
Tobacco, leaf, other	Lb.	5,741	5,165	3,887	3,200
Beans, dried	Lb.	23,658	27,058	1,630	2,276
Peas, dried	Lb.	5,381	5,009	369	350
Potatoes, white	Lb.	36,821	17,734	1,508	445
Vegetables, canned	Lb.	9,187	7,737	1,116	995
Total above				263,577	195,221
Food exported for relief, etc.				427	1,339
Other agricultural products				32,781	26,975
Total agricultural				296,785	223,535
Total all commodities				1,341,779	1,379,199

1/ Product weight.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

UNITED STATES: Summary of imports for consumption of selected agricultural products during April 1952 and 1953

Commodity imported SUPPLEMENTARY	Unit	April			
		Quantity		Value	
		1952	1953	1952	1953
				1,000	1,000
ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	0	34	0	2,678
Cattle, free (for breeding)	No.	0	3	0	766
Casein and lactarene	Lb.	2,349	7,671	356	946
Cheese	Lb.	3,263	4,503	1,437	2,189
Hides and skins	Lb.	15,828	17,649	5,945	8,032
Beef canned, incl. corned	Lb.	8,242	9,606	2,813	3,428
Wool, unmfd,excl. free, etc.	Lb.	37,588	30,751	29,811	22,259
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton,unmfd.,excl.linters (480 lb.)	Bale	1	33	494	5,680
Jute and jute butts,unmfd.(2,240 lb.)	Ton	2	13	869	2,232
Apples, green or ripe (50 lb.)	Bu.	57	81	223	258
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,550	1,268	2,296	2,008
Pineapples, prep. or preserved	Lb.	6,102	5,563	693	688
Barley malt	Lb.	5,406	4,498	331	279
Hops	Lb.	53	735	57	1,042
Almonds, shelled	Lb.	210	178	83	66
Brazil or cream nuts, not shelled ...	Lb.	981	269	138	43
Cashew nuts	Lb.	3,406	3,065	1,511	1,341
Coconut meat, shredded, etc.	Lb.	4,520	9,076	539	1,555
Castor beans	Lb.	8,723	10,211	964	838
Copra	Lb.	47,216	77,034	2,708	7,864
Flaxseed (56 lb.)	Bu.	0	1/	0	1/
Coconut oil	Lb.	7,921	19,011	700	2,994
Palm oil	Lb.	5,422	5,628	955	535
Tung oil	Lb.	3,729	1,379	1,431	363
Sugar, excl. beet (2,000 lb.)	Ton	397	398	41,832	44,531
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	25,084	63,393	4,658	4,540
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	5,784	6,063	3,862	4,044
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,336	1,117	2,173	1,877
Potatoes, white	Lb.	20,837	19,093	857	574
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	33,774	21,725	2,441	1,691
COMPLEMENTARY					
Wool, unmfd., free in bond	Lb.	13,430	15,405	7,900	7,313
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Bananas	Bunch	4,772	4,719	5,331	6,265
Coffee (ex. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	225,319	282,875	115,585	147,972
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	53,201	61,184	17,892	17,660
Tea	Lb.	8,798	11,141	3,830	4,963
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	6,068	7,382	4,831	4,600
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	14	11	7,555	2,384
Rubber, crude	Lb.	185,861	135,695	75,927	33,938
Total above				349,028	350,436
Other agricultural products				59,295	71,585
Total agricultural products				408,323	422,021
Total all commodities				935,476	997,703

1/ Less than 500.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

On a quantitative basis, the outstanding features of the nation's agricultural exports during April compared with those for the same month a year earlier are the very large reductions shown in exports of a number of products (notably butter, pork, lard, dried eggs, cotton, applies, grapefruit, prunes, fruit juices, barley, grain sorghums, rice, wheat, soybean oil, field and garden seeds, white potatoes, dried peas, and canned vegetables) and the very large increases in exports of certain others (particularly whole dried milk, nonfat dry milk solids, beef and veal, tallow, oranges, raisins and currants, canned fruits, corn, flue-cured tobacco, hops, soybeans, and dried beans).

With respect to agricultural imports, receipts from abroad during April were valued at $422,021,000, an increase of 4 percent compared with the $406,311,000 worth imported during March. During the month of April a year ago our agricultural imports were valued at $408,323,000. The country's imports of all commodities, agricultural as well as nonagricultural, were valued at $997,703,000 in April compared with $991,987,000 in March and with $935,476,000 in April last year.

On a dollar-value basis, agricultural products constituted 42 percent of the total imports during April compared with 41 percent in March and 44 percent during April 1952. As usual, such commodities as coffee, sugar, rubber and wool constituted the principal agricultural imports. The figures also disclose that while the value of our agricultural imports in April increased by 3 percent compared with those for the same month a year ago, imports of nonagricultural products increased by 9 percent.

Quantitatively, the April 1953 imports, compared with those for the same month last year, show very large increases for cattle, casein and lactarene. cheese, hides and skins, canned beef, cotton, jute, apples, hops, coconut meat, castor beans, copra, coconut oil, molasses, coffee, cocoa or cacao beans, tea and spices. On the other hand, the figures reveal very large reductions in imports of wool, pineapples, barley malt, Brazil nuts, cashews, tung oil, potatoes, tomatoes, sisal and rubber.

The value of the Nation's agricultural imports during April 1953 exceeded that of its agricultural exports by $198,486,000. In March 1953, agricultural imports exceeded agricultural exports by $155,737,000. During April 1952, the value of United States agricultural imports exceeded that of our agricultural exports by $111,538,000.--By Leo J. Schaben.

FOREIGN SHELLED ALMOND PRODUCTION BELOW LAST YEAR [1]

The 1953 preliminary forecast of shelled almond production in the leading foreign producing countries (France not included) is 81,100 short tons compared with 87,800 tons (revised) in 1952 and 68,400 tons in 1951. The forecast exceeds the 10-year (1941-50) average of 67,300 tons for these countries by 21 percent and the 5-year (1946-50) average of 71,800 tons by 13 percent. Decreases are reported for all countries except French Morocco and Spain where modest increases are expected; however, weather conditions may reduce these somewhat.

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[1] A more extensive statement soon will be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular by the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ALMONDS, SHELLED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, 1953 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	France	French Morocco	Iran	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Foreign total	U. S. unshelled
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:								
1941-50	800	2,300	6,400	31,800	2,500	24,300	68,100	32,600
1946-50	900	2,900	7,100	35,400	3,400	23,000	72,700	40,100
Annual:								
1947	1,000	1,200	6,000	46,200	1,100	22,000	77,500	35,700
1948	1,100	3,300	7,000	18,700	2,900	21,000	54,000	36,500
1949	300	3,300	7,700	24,300	4,200	21,900	61,700	43,300
1950	1,600	3,900	7,100	55,000	5,300	25,800	98,700	37,700
1951	600	3,500	7,700	25,300	3,400	28,500	69,000	42,700
1952 2/	900	2,600	1/7,700	1/44,500	1/6,000	1/27,000	1/88,700	35,300
1953 2/	3/	3,500	5,500	39,800	4,300	28,000	4/81,100	3/

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Not available. 4/ France not included.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, results of office research, trade and other information.

The United States preliminary forecast is not yet available; however, the June 1, 1953 condition figure is 59 percent compared with 57 percent a year ago. This preliminary figure appears to indicate a crop only slightly larger than 1952. There was some frost damage in California during blossoming.

The 1953 foreign crop follows a near-record one in 1952 and could be expected to be smaller. Growing conditions in all countries were spotty with nearly all reporting some frost damage and other adverse conditions. In Italy, generally the world's largest producer, conditions in Sicily have been very good while in Bari they have not. In Spain there have been some losses due to frosts at blossoming but the principal worry now seems to be excessive dry weather which it is feared may cause a heavy drop or cause nuts to fail to size. Recent reports indicate some very beneficial rains have recently fallen which may help save the crop in some areas. Elsewhere the situation is very similar.

UNITED STATES: Imports for consumption of shelled and unshelled almonds by country of origin

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	French Morocco	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
				SHELLED		
Averages:						
1941-42/1950-51	25	1,772	469	2,660	145	5,071
1946-47/1950-51	36	3,241	109	887	35	4,308
Annual:						
1946-47	34	2,054	187	950	76	3,301
1947-48	27	4,179	98	1,805	26	6,135
1948-49	0	4,370	206	255	47	4,878
1949-50	41	695	10	1	1/	747
1950-51	78	4,908	43	1,423	25	6,477
1951-52	47	547	6	936	121	1,657
1952-53 2/	54	442	86	2,395	72	3,049

Year	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Other	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
			UNSHELLED		
Averages:					
1941-42/1950-51	2	3	114	1	120
1946-47/1950-51	5	0	56	1	62
Annual:					
1946-47	6	0	145	6	157
1947-48	9	0	0	1/	9
1948-49	2	0	0	1	3
1949-50	1/	0	0	1/	1/
1950-51	6	0	135	0	141
1951-52	1/	0	0	0	1/
1952-53 2/	0	0	0	0	0

1/ Less than one-half ton.
2/ 8 months, September through April

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Continued - - -

UNITED STATES: Exports of shelled and unshelled almonds

Year	Canada	Mexico	Central America	South America	Switzerland	Other	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
				SHELLED			
1952 1/	190	6	12	31	157	10	406
1952-53 2/	202	2	21	51	707	45	1,028
				UNSHELLED			
1952 1/	19	1	3/	1	11	1	33
1952-53 2/	167	4	21	3	0	29	224

1/ 8 months, January through August - not separately classified as to shelled and unshelled prior to 1952.
2/ 8 months, September through April. 3/ Less than one-half ton.
Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Census.

It is estimated that on June 1, 1953, 13,900 short tons remained from the 1952 harvest in the 5 countries covered in this report. This estimate represents about 16 percent of the 1952 harvest in these countries. Italy leads the list with 12,100 tons still on hand followed by Spain with 1,100 tons but probably more still in hands of growers. A year ago on the same date an estimated 12,100 tons or 18 percent of the previous harvest remained, with Spain having the largest tonnage. It is believed Portugal will have sold out its estimated 600 tons and French Morocco its 100 tons before new-crop this fall.

The 1952-53 export season in the Mediterranean Basin, now rapidly coming to a close, is estimated to have moved about 42,400 tons into international trade so far during this season with additional tonnages yet to move. The total estimated available supply at the start of the season was 95,400 tons (harvest 88,700, carry-over 6,700 tons). The estimated international trade represents 48 percent of the 1952 harvest and 44 percent of the total available supply. On the basis of present information, Italy was again the principal exporter with about 25,000 tons or 59 percent of the total followed by Spain, Portugal and Iran. Exports from these countries are continuing at a modest scale with all countries except Italy hoping to have sold completely their 1952 harvest before new-crop nuts reach the market this fall. Italy on the basis of present indications may still have over half of its June 1 carry-over on hand by September 1, 1953.

It is too early to forecast the trend of the 1953-54 season; however, a large Mediterranean filbert crop is in the making which will offer some competition for available markets. There is some uncertainty with regard to the British import licenses for the July-December period. It had been expected that the second half of 1953 would see a somewhat larger amount set aside for nuts but apparently this has not occurred. The Spanish deal is again expected to offer other producing countries some strong competition during the 1953-54 season unless they are prepared to meet Spanish competition price-wise.--By W. R. Schreiber.

WORLD PRODUCTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, FIRST QUARTER, 1953 1/

The shift in utilization of milk for manufacturing purposes from butter to other dairy products continued in the opening quarter of 1953. Conditions in this period were favorable for milk production in many of the principal dairy countries of the world and output of milk in these countries and that of dairy products showed a gain over comparable 1952.

Butter production in factories in the first quarter of 1953 increased approximately 18 percent over the corresponding quarter of 1952. Larger milk output in both Australia and New Zealand resulted in heavier manufacturing supplies than a year earlier, much of which went into butter. Higher butter production largely followed the improvement in milk output in Denmark and the Netherlands. In Western Germany, an increase in liquid milk consumption reduced milk supplies and butter production dropped slightly. A decline also occurred in Ireland in this quarter.

Production of butter increased in both Canada and the United States, reflecting the large supplies directed into factory channels, which were used principally in the manufacture of butter.

Factory cheese production in the January-March quarter of 1953 rose 21 percent over the corresponding quarter of 1952. More milk was available for processing in Australia and New Zealand, and cheese output in these countries increased substantially. Cheese factories in Denmark and the Netherlands received larger quantities of manufacturing milk in this quarter than a year ago. Milk used in making cheese in Canada and the United States in the first quarter of 1953 exceeded that used in the first quarter of 1952 and cheese production in those countries ran well ahead of the earlier year.

Over-all canned milk output for the opening quarter of 1953 showed a slight gain over the same period of 1952. Production was up in Australia, the Netherlands and the United States. It was down in Canada in this quarter.

Total dried milk production increased markedly in the first quarter of 1953 over the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. In the Netherlands, total dried milk output was considerably higher than in 1952, due to a production of dried skim milk almost twice that of the earlier year. An increase in total dried milk output also was reported in Australia. In Canada and the United States, higher production of nonfat dry milk solids accounted for the increase in over-all dried milk output in the first quarter.

(Tables on following pages; text continued on Page 575)

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular by the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

FACTORY DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing countries, 1st quarter (calendar) 1953, with comparisons

Country and product	Average 1934-38	Average 1946-50	Total 1952	1952 1st Quarter	1952 2nd Quarter	1952 3rd Quarter	1952 4th Quarter	1953 1st Quarter	First Quarter 1953/52
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
BUTTER									
Canada	1/ 254,774	277,868	2/ 282,460	2/ 27,349	2/ 93,510	2/ 107,254	2/ 54,347	33,955	124
United States	1,673,328	1,301,830	1,205,700	249,870	369,310	324,670	261,850	331,760	133
Belgium	46,179	55,353	3/ 74,743	12,293	23,446	23,444	15,560	—	-
Denmark	400,660	318,697	337,304	70,988	100,310	92,592	73,414	78,704	111
Finland	61,287	4/ 61,215	5/ 95,000	—	—	—	—	—	-
France 6/	5/ 529,000	390,471	5/ 518,000	—	—	—	—	—	-
Germany, Western	7/8/560,000	4/ 492,188	2/ 596,378	2/ 125,933	2/ 178,969	2/ 168,680	122,796	124,757	99
Ireland	89,400	68,648	73,787	3,738	25,612	32,243	12,194	2,972	80
Netherlands	201,000	155,620	2/ 163,769	2/ 27,536	51,162	49,577	35,494	32,158	117
Norway	24,930	20,049	2/ 22,709	4,061	8,623	6,642	2/ 3,383	—	-
Sweden	152,769	216,442	206,317	44,237	58,070	61,731	42,279	—	-
Switzerland 6/	57,760	36,949	9/ 49,163	9,261	15,172	15,057	8,458	—	-
United Kingdom	44,200	23,529	2/ 16,218	2/ 1,837	2/ 9,632	3,405	2/ 1,344	—	-
Argentina	65,742	100,657	102,580	27,624	22,046	19,841	33,069	—	-
Union of So. Africa	10/ 27,725	44,845	61,315	19,097	13,996	12,071	16,151	—	-
Australia	8/ 415,250	354,371	332,793	71,998	55,615	74,599	130,581	102,382	142
New Zealand- total	8/ 366,912	346,095	2/ 434,784	137,536	38,326	79,341	2/ 179,581	138,813	101
Export gradings	11/ 322,796	301,826	367,879	120,302	28,327	61,484	157,766	—	-
CHEESE									
Canada	1/ 119,924	114,329	2/ 66,574	2/ 4,102	2/ 22,511	2/ 27,589	2/ 12,372	4,934	120
United States	643,234	1,156,005	2/1,195,375	2/ 226,975	382,400	333,960	252,040	278,700	123
Denmark	68,820	123,634	187,391	33,730	61,288	56,218	36,155	41,226	122
France 12/	5/ 584,000	13/ 424,070	5/ 562,000	—	—	—	—	—	-
Italy 12/	523,513	491,326	5/ 684,528	—	—	—	—	—	-
Netherlands	5/ 200,000	176,926	2/ 283,261	2/ 46,506	98,547	87,999	50,209	55,960	120
Norway 14/	39,067	35,564	67,461	13,913	22,835	19,254	11,459	—	-
Sweden	76,059	115,005	132,219	25,097	44,621	39,749	22,752	—	-
Switzerland 14/	111,729	107,232	123,458	16,428	35,913	40,986	20,765	—	-
United Kingdom 6/	109,000	69,888	2/ 123,201	24,461	2/ 44,890	2/ 36,557	2/ 17,293	—	-
Argentina	67,873	203,830	224,131	60,990	46,297	39,683	77,161	—	-
Union of So. Africa	10/ 10,195	17,967	2/ 21,776	5,901	2/ 5,249	4,696	5,930	—	-
Australia	8/ 48,400	98,396	99,400	18,555	10,841	24,893	45,111	24,219	130
New Zealand - total	8/ 210,911	216,842	2/ 225,391	2/ 68,701	18,906	2/ 35,572	2/ 102,212	76,474	111
Export gradings	11/ 204,110	205,962	217,486	72,809	27,015	20,045	97,617	—	-

CANNED MILK									
Canada 15/	1/ 104,335	266,532	2/ 337,423	2/ 48,344	2/ 129,963	2/ 113,749	2/ 45,367	42,564	88
United States 16/	1,970,189	3,170,576	2,902,775	546,100	993,800	804,450	558,425	546,250	100
Cuba	17/ 32,564	36,655	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
Denmark	40,785	58,701	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
France	18/ 28,953	17/ 57,984	5/ 198,414	—	—	—	—	—	-
Netherlands	309,952	181,222	2/ 498,285	2/ 98,642	145,805	141,806	2/ 112,032	105,513	107
Switzerland	14,198	13,031	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
United Kingdom	378,560	219,914	233,767	2/ 23,296	2/ 144,525	2/ 38,259	27,687	—	-
Argentina	19/ 3,159	17/ 11,914	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
Australia	8/ 41,894	132,745	149,204	31,212	19,985	30,686	67,321	35,903	115
New Zealand	17/ 11,273	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
DRIED MILK 20/									
Canada	1/ 26,079	70,876	2/ 102,813	2/ 9,150	2/ 31,956	2/ 37,723	2/ 23,984	15,367	168
United States	17/ 203,555	913,436	940,280	185,185	352,325	232,565	170,205	289,800	156
Belgium	5,500	6,607	21,848	1,097	9,548	8,664	2,539	—	-
Denmark	2,205	16,866	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
France	18/ 7,685	17/ 3,308	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
Netherlands	56,438	54,468	2/ 113,965	2/ 16,547	46,197	39,109	2/ 12,112	18,541	112
Sweden	1,351	24,566	27,979	4,714	9,134	9,947	4,184	—	-
Switzerland	7,187	10,847	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
United Kingdom	43,098	73,848	52,774	8,423	2/ 32,704	2/ 7,974	3,673	—	-
Argentina	19/ 3,977	17/ 14,070	—	—	—	—	—	—	-
Australia	8/ 16,971	54,235	70,228	13,901	6,467	14,488	35,372	24,248	174
New Zealand	21/ 17,429	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-

1/ Average 1935-39. 2/ Revised. 3/ Total production in 1952 is estimated at 158,511,000 pounds. 4/ Average 1948-50. 5/ Estimated. 6/ Total production. 7/ Average 1935-38. 8/ Production year ending June 30. 9/ Annual production figures more complete than monthly figures used in quarterly data. 10/ Production year ending August 31. 11/ Marketing year ending July 31. 12/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of sheep and goats. 13/ For 1948. 14/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of goats. 15/ Both bulk and case goods. 16/ Evaporated whole and condensed whole case goods only. (Estimates of production of bulk types discontinued.) 17/ Less than a 5-year average. 18/ For 1937. 19/ For 1939. 20/ Total dried-whole and dried-skim milk for human consumption. 21/ For 1938.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, U. S. Foreign Service reports, and other information.-June 29, 1953.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES

The following table shows the wholesale price of butter and cheese at specified world markets. (These prices are being published monthly because of expressed interest in such information).

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Wholesale prices at specified markets, 1953
(U. S. cents per pound)

Country, market and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Date	Price	Quotations		Date	Price	Quotations	
			Month earlier	Year earlier			Month earlier	Year earlier
United Kingdom (London)								
National butter (bulk) 1/	June 5	36.4	36.4	29.5	-	-	-	-
Ration varieties 1/	-	-	-	-	June 5	25.0	25.0	23.0
Australia (Sydney)								
Choicest butter	June 1	41.8	41.8	-	-	-	-	-
Choicest cheddar	-	-	-	-	June 1	25.7	25.6	-
Irish Republic (Dublin)								
Creamery butter (bulk)	June 4	55.0	55.0	39.1	-	-	-	-
- - - - - - -	-	-	-	-	June 4	28.8	28.8	28.8
Denmark (Copenhagen)	May 28	2/ 42.0	2/ 42.0	2/3/ 36.1	-	-	-	-
France (Paris)								
Charentes creamery butter	May 28	77.8	75.2	72.5	-	-	-	-
Germany (Kempten)								
Markenbutter	May 27	56.7	57.2	56.7	-	-	-	-
United States								
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	May 29	65.8	65.8	68.6	-	-	-	-
Cheddar (Wisconsin)	-	-	-	-	May 29	35.5	35.5	38.0
Netherlands (Leeuwarden)								
Full Cream Gouda	-	-	-	-	May 29	22.7	22.9	24.6
Edam 40 percent	-	-	-	-	May 29	20.3	20.6	22.6
Belgium (Hasselt)	May 28	73.8	73.4	75.0	-	-	-	-
Canada (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery 4/	May 23	58.6	59.0	59.3		-	-	-
Ontario white 5/	-	-	-	-	May 23	6/ -	30.3	27.5

1/ Ministry of Food first-hand selling price. 2/ Accounting price, based on average returns from exports. 3/ Excludes additional payments to growers, effective from October 26, 1951 to May 29, 1952. 4/ Jobbing quotation. 5/ f.o.b. factory. 6/ No trading.

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee.

WORLD PRODUCTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS--(Continued from page 571)

Prospects for the current season in the main dairying countries appear to be favorable. In the Southern Hemisphere, recent climatic conditions in most areas have produced good pastures. Conditions are favorable for milk production in the European countries for which information is available. Pastures made a nice start in Canada, and with more cows in production, a substantial gain in the milk supply may be expected.--By Regina M. Murray, based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

VENEZUELA MAY SUSPEND TOBACCO PRODUCTION

The President of the National Union of Tobacco Growers announced that tobacco production would be suspended in Venezuela unless growers received higher prices, and also unless a new grading system was developed, according to J. H. Kempton, Agricultural Attache, Caracas. Many growers have already endorsed this plan. However, the plan must be proven legal before power will be granted to the President of the Union to suspend tobacco production.

Cost of production, of which labor constitutes about 80 percent, has risen 83 percent in the last few years while average prices paid to producers reportedly have increased only 12 percent. According to Mr. Kempton's despatch, the current average production cost is $688.00 per acre as compared with about $375.00 average during the recent 7 years. The current average price is only 67 U.S. cents per pound as compared to 60 U.S. cents for the 7-year average. Labor wages currently are placed at $2.40 per day as compared to an average of $1.05 per day. Venezuelan tobacco production for 1952-53 is estimated at about 13.1 million pounds.

ETHIOPIA EASES COFFEE EXPORT REGULATIONS

Ethiopia has liberalized its regulations on coffee exports to the Sudan, according to reports from Addis Ababa. On May 16, 1953 permission was given to export against 100 percent sterling. Since there was danger that this action would lead to large exports to the Sudan with re-export to other countries, and consequent loss of dollar exchange to Ethiopia, the Sudan Government agreed to exercise sufficient control to prevent re-exports.

The State Bank of Ethiopia limited the quantity exportable against sterling to 2,500 metric tons (42,000 bags of 60 kilograms) for the current season. This quantity is about the Sudan's requirements.

Both Governments are reinforcing border guards to prevent movement of coffee through other than official channels.

SWITZERLAND'S FATS AND OILS IMPORTS MAY INCREASE: GOOD MARKET FOR U.S. TALLOW

Imports into Switzerland of all oils and fats (including oilseeds expressed in terms of oil) should increase in 1953, according to O.B. Moussman, American Consulate General, Zurich. There appears to be a small but good market for United States tallow. On the other hand, China may be able to supply more peanuts, sesame oil and other oils at reduced prices. The consensus is that the outlook is normal as regards requirements and consumption, but uncertain as regards imports and sources of supply.

Oilseed production in Switzerland is limited to rapeseed. Acreage and production in 1952 is estimated to have been about the same as in 1951--6,180 acres and 2,535 short tons of rapeseed oil. For 1953 the Swiss Government has repeated its 1952 pledge to purchase the yield of 6,795 acres planted to rapeseed, but it is doubtful whether farmers will respond to the full extent. Switzerland thus is dependent upon imported vegetable oils and oilseeds for the bulk of its requirements. Most of the population prefers vegetable fats for cooking.

Switzerland's edible fats and oils supply in 1952 has been reported as follows:

Type	Production 1/	Imports 2/	Exports 2/	Balance
	(Short tons)			
Butter	23,986	7,962	1.0	31,947.0
Lard	7,126	293	3.0	7,416.0
Tallow and oleo oil	4,360	2,372	.6	6,731.4
Coconut fat	15,278	31	30.4	15,278.6
Other fats	-	333	141.1	191.9
Peanut oil	12,346	5,706	676.8	17,375.2
Olive oil	-	1,227	9.6	1,217.4
Other edible oil	2,469	1,827	1,478.2	2,817.8
Total 1952	65,565	19,751	2,340.7	82,975.3

1/ Butter production as reported by the Swiss Farmers' Union; other production figures, estimates of the Consulate General. 2/ Swiss Customs Statistics.

Consumption of edible oils and fats, excluding butter, is estimated at around 65,000 tons. This figure includes partial consumption of emergency stocks held by householders at the request of the Swiss Government following the outbreak of fighting in Korea. The principal consumers of non-edible oils and fats are the soap industry, which uses about 17,000 tons; the paint and varnish industry, about 16,500; and the chemical and pharmaceutical industry, about 3,300 to 5,500; making a total of around 39,000 tons.

There is no published breakdown of the different types of oilseeds imported. However, trade sources indicate that of the total 1952 imports of 74,585 tons, peanuts accounted for 30,865 tons, copra for 25,465 tons, flaxseed for 14,110 tons; and all other oilseeds (sesame, castor beans and others) for 4,145 tons. The bulk of the raw material came from China and the Philippines.

Peanut oil is preferred by the Swiss as a salad oil and for certain types of deep-frying, with olive oil ranking second. Peanuts for crushing were imported mainly from China. The United States and Belgium were the major sources of peanut oil in 1952. However, imports from China have been on the increase.

Next to peanut oil and olive oil, sesame oil ranks ahead of sunflower seed oil in preference; the former is offered in considerable quantities by China and the latter is available both from Eastern Europe and Argentina. Lard and edible tallow are not popular in Switzerland and domestic renderers have trouble in selling these commodities. Therefore, there is little prospect of increasing exports from the United States.

Linseed oil imports decreased from 9,474 tons in 1951 to 3,175 last year, reflecting the new tendency to use quick-drying plastic paints. The demand for linseed oil is said to be only 50 percent of what it was before the war. Uruguay was the major source in 1952.

Imports of denatured olive and almond oil, used generally in the manufacture of toilet soap, declined from 4,624 tons in 1951 to 3,243 tons in 1952. These oils are now being partly replaced by tallow. Manufacturers of better-known brands of soap prefer not to change their formulas for the present, but they may do so if tallow prices continue low. It is estimated that synthetic detergents have taken about 10 percent of the entire soap market, but it is doubted whether their maximum share will exceed 20 percent a few years hence.

The United States is Switzerland's main supplier of crude tallow and bone fat. Total imports amounted to 5,395 tons (5,202 from the United States) in 1952 against 6,540 in 1951.

Switzerland exported 2,339 tons of edible and 5,963 tons of inedible oils and fats in 1952.

AUSTRALIA'S COCONUT OIL PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY

Australian production of coconut oil, largely from copra imported from her island territories, is expected to total about 18,000 short tons in 1952-53, or slightly under the 18,300 tons produced in 1951-52, according to the American Consulate General, Sydney. Since Australian territories are considered to be separate entities from the Commonwealth, copra produced there and used in Australia is classified as imported.

The bulk of Australia's copra comes from Papua and New Guinea, but from 4,400 to 5,600 tons are imported each year from the Solomon Islands. Total copra imports for 1952-53 (July-June) are forecast at around 35,000 tons against 35,840 tons in the preceding 12 months. Most of the coconut oil produced in Australia is used in the manufacture of margarine, but about 4,500 tons per year is used in soap, candles, and chemicals.

Production of oilseeds other than flaxseed and peanuts (see Foreign Crops and Markets of May 18, 1953, page 449, for summary of major fats and oils produced) is presently insignificant in Australia. Some increase has occurred in cottonseed production in recent years but output is forecast at only 750 tons in 1952-53. Production of sunflower seed is anticipated at 290 tons, tung nuts at 27 tons, and soybeans at 12 tons. One Australian firm has plans for planting 200 acres in tung this year, and if others follow suit, this crop may become of major importance. Australia also has a small olive production. The latest year for which the Commonwealth has given olive oil production is for 1950-51 when 11,522 Imperial gallons (about 52 tons) were produced.

U. S. COTTON EXPORTS LOWER IN APRIL

Exports of cotton from the United States in April amounted to 218,000 bales of 500 pounds (208,000 running bales) making a total for August-April 1952-53 of 2,556,000 bales (2,452,000 running bales). This total represents only 50.5 percent of the 5,063,000 bales exported during a corresponding period a year ago. The decline has been continuous each month since a peak was reached in December 1952 but figures released by the New York Cotton Exchange for May, based on incomplete private returns, indicate an upturn to about 273,000 running bales in that month.

Exports during May, June, and July 1952, totaled 648,000 bales (628,000 running bales). Present indications are that exports in these months in 1953 will not exceed this total despite the substantial amounts of cotton to be shipped under Mutual Security and Export-Import Bank programs before deadline dates of June 15 and June 30, respectively.

The decline in United States cotton exports in 1952-53 may be attributed to a number of factors such as the availability of large quantities of foreign cotton at slightly lower prices, barter trade and clearing agreements affecting cotton trade among foreign countries, and hand-to-mouth buying policies on the part of foreign mill buyers.

Exports to India suffered the sharpest decline dropping from 749,000 bales during August-April 1951-52 to 37,000 in the corresponding months in 1952-53. This decline was due mainly to record imports and accumulation of large stocks of American cotton in 1951-52 and to tighter restrictions in 1952-53 on dollar exchange allocated by the government for new purchases. A drop in exports to Japan from 922,000 to 506,000 bales for the periods mentioned above may be attributed to a large increase in Japan's imports of lower-priced Mexican cotton and to large purchases in the "sterling area." The reduction in exports to European countries from 2,793,000 to 1,528,000 bales was primarily a matter of price competition. However, barter and clearing agreements involving the exchange of surplus manufactured products for cotton and other raw materials played an important part in the reduction in imports of United States cotton into Europe in favor of foreign growths in 1952-53.

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination; averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1950-51 and 1951-52 August-April 1951-52 and 1952-53

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Averages		1950	1951	August-April	
	1935-39	1945-49			1951-52	1952-53
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria	0	1/ 36	55	32	23	39
Belgium-Luxembourg	169	131	80	317	310	68
Czechoslovakia	65	57	6	0	0	0
Denmark	33	14	31	34	31	26
Finland	35	21	3	33	32	4
France	662	575	447	309	283	379
Germany	511	340	481	447	377	193
Greece	3	21	1	0	0	0
Italy	442	489	546	560	397	227
Netherlands	107	131	158	197	171	66
Norway	17	7	20	15	15	11
Poland and Danzig	180	69	1	0	0	0
Spain	108	69	66	203	179	64
Sweden	115	12	33	100	98	31
Switzerland	11	26	22	99	99	27
United Kingdom	1,346	483	307	662	662	323
Yugoslavia	17	47	78	122	90	67
Other Europe	2/ 64	12	12	3/ 27	26	3
Total Europe	3,885	2,545	2,347	3,157	2,793	1,528
Canada	301	275	431	296	264	239
Chile	9	20	48	35	35	1
Colombia	20	24	55	53	47	32
Cuba	11	16	24	20	19	10
India	52	86	219	778	749	37
China	117	401	54	0	0	0
Hong Kong	4/	35	27	0	0	0
Indonesia	4/	5	16	14	13	14
Japan	1,142	585	883	1,095	922	506
Korea, Republic of	5/	6/ 48	36	55	40	26
Australia	9	7	0	50	49	10
Other countries	43	18	140	7/ 158	132	8/ 153
Total	5,589	4,065	4,280	5,711	5,063	2,556

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Includes Portugal 36. 3/ Includes Portugal 21. 4/ Less than 500 bales. 5/ If any, included in Other countries. 6/ 3-year average. 7/ Taiwan 53, French Indochina 24, 8/ Taiwan 94

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

There are a number of foreign situations and developments now in evidence that may have a direct bearing on the size of United States cotton exports in 1953-54. Stocks of cotton in importing countries on July 31, 1953, generally will be at or below last year's below-normal stocks with consumption still slightly below, to slightly above, the current high level. Stocks of old-crop cotton in foreign producing countries (except Brazil and Egypt) will be generally down to minimum carry-over level in contrast with last year's very large stocks. Early indications are that foreign production will be down by 500,000 bales or more from last year's 20.3 million bales.--By Charles H. Barber.

WORLD EXPORTABLE RICE SUPPLIES INCREASE IN 1953

World rice supplies available for export during 1953 are estimated at around 5 percent larger than a year earlier, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Total supplies are estimated at 11,300 million pounds, excluding reexports, as compared with 10,700 million pounds exported in 1952.

Heavy year-end stocks in the principal exporting area of Asia, together with increasing supplies from several newly surplus countries outside of Asia, are important factors in the gain in world export availabilities. Larger rice crops in 1952-53 accounted for increases in only a few of the surplus countries.

The tendency in 1953 will likely be to reduce carry-over supplies by the end of the year, on account of (1) a substantial carry-over of the 1951-52 crop, (2) a desire to dispose of the larger-than-average quantity of rice damaged this season in open storage, and (3) increased production in some importing countries of Asia in 1952-53.

The carry-over rice stocks of Thailand and Burma at the beginning of 1953 were larger than at any time since World War II, and exceeded considerably those in early 1952. The Korean war in 1950 had caused a sudden strong demand for rice in the 1951 world market, thus causing these countries to increase export commitments to a maximum, with the result that supplies at the beginning of 1952 were virtually exhausted.

At the outset of 1952, at a time when the demand in the importing countries of Asia was especially strong, Thailand and Burma reduced substantially the volume allocated on a Government-to-Government basis, apparently to obtain higher prices. As a result, considerable of the surpluses available at the beginning of 1952 were not exported, and carry-over supplies were reestablished at the end of the year.

Reportedly there is increasing confidence among Asiatic buyers that world exportable supplies are coming into a better balance with minimum demands, and resistance is beginning to build up to the current high price of rice. The full force of this trend is now expected to become apparent in about October, when prospects for the 1953-54 harvest can be fully appraised.

RICE (in terms of milled): Exports from principal countries of supply, averages 1936-40 and 1946-50, annual 1951-52, and estimated exportable supplies, 1953

Continent and country	Average 1936-40	Average 1946-50	1951	1952	Export supplies 1953 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
ASIA:					
Burma	6,504	2,147	2,796	2,924	3,100-3,300
Indochina	3,233	247	726	497	500
Thailand	2,920	1,920	3,427	3,148	3,500-3,700
Korea	2,367	2/	2/	0	0
Taiwan(Formosa)	1,427	51	227	232	50-100
China	2/	2/	150	400	600
Iran	59	46	46	30	70
Estimated total	16,560	4,417	7,841	7,266	8,000-8,400
EUROPE:					
Italy	336	177	492	607	600-800
Spain	2/	15	18	126	150-175
Estimated total	348	193	509	770	800-1,000
WESTERN HEMISPHERE					
NORTH AMERICA:					
Mexico	19	47	2	4	0
Nicaragua	2/	11	18	12	15
United States	235	962	1,082	1,744	1,700
Estimated total	256	1,026	1,106	1,760	1,750
SOUTH AMERICA:					
Argentina	2/	3	3/	17	20-65
Brazil	83	321	363	475	0
British Guiana	34	52	68	62	65
Ecuador	26	123	15	126	120-170
Uruguay	4	12	23	28	30-40
Surinam	11	9	8	13	10
Estimated total	158	546	482	737	250-350
Total W. Hemisphere	414	1,572	1,588	2,497	2,000-2,100
AFRICA:					
Egypt	279	548	692	35	0
Madagascar	15	2/	3	85	85
Estimated total	310	568	708	135	100
Australia	29	63	70	45	70
WORLD TOTAL	17,661	6,820	10,716	10,713	11,000-11,700

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Imports exceeded exports. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Prepared on the basis of official statistics and current crop and trade information.

Exporting countries: Burma's record postwar harvest of 1952-53 plus an important carry-over from the old crop is expected to result in shipments during 1953 significantly above those of recent years. Exportable supplies are estimated at around 3,300 million pounds in terms of milled. Even though the demand for Burmese rice in some countries may be less than in 1952, it appears likely that it will be strong enough to maintain shipments at prices as high as those in 1952 until the size of the 1953-54 surplus is determined.

It is the custom for large quantities of rough rice in Burma to be stored in the open after harvest in November, through the dry season, which normally ends toward the middle of May. Usually little damage occurs to the stored rice, and milling is completed before the beginning of the monsoon. Because of heavy rains in February of this year, damage to rough rice was heavier than usual, and as a result, the quality of the milled rice available for export is below even the relatively poor quality of that exported in other postwar years. Most of this damage did not result in a total loss, but rather it produced an off-color, yellow milled product.

In Thailand, the 1952-53 harvest was smaller than in the year before, but sizable carry-over supplies from the old crop were available at the beginning of 1953, in contrast with the previous year when the year-end stocks were virtually exhausted.

Exports from Taiwan (Formosa) are expected to be reduced sharply in 1953. An unexpected shortage in rice developed in that country during the first half of 1953, reportedly because of the withholding of rough rice stocks by producers. Some rice has been imported on a loan basis from Japan, but a like quantity will be returned later in the year. Supplies are expected to return to normal at the end of the year at the time the November crop is marketed. The quantity that Japan expected at the beginning of the year to be imported from Taiwan during 1953 was around 130 million pounds, of which a part has already been imported.

Good crops were harvested in Iran in the fall of 1952, and exportable supplies in 1953 should be substantially larger than last year's exports.

Record supplies in Italy are available for export in 1953, and Spain's surplus is larger than the record of the late 1930's before rice production was reduced by the Spanish Civil War. Greece in 1952 not only increased rice production to meet domestic needs, but also has available for export in 1953 around 40 million pounds of rice. According to information from Japan, a Japanese company has contracted for 11 million pounds of rice from Turkey for shipment in June and July. This is a short-grain rice similar in size and taste to the Japanese type.

In contrast with substantially larger surpluses for export in 1953 in the countries of Asia and Europe, total export availabilities in the Western Hemisphere are expected to show a substantial reduction compared with 1952. This is due primarily to drought conditions in parts of Brazil, where a poor crop is expected to be only about sufficient for domestic consumption. In all the other South American countries, exportable supplies of rice are as large or larger than last year.

Excellent crops are being harvested in Ecuador and Peru, and Argentina produced another record crop this season. Rice exports from the United States are expected to be at about the same rate as in 1952.

Import requirements: World demand for rice in 1953 has not been so keen as in the first half of 1952, when the withholding of supplies in Thailand and Burma for higher prices set up a highly competitive market for availabilities in the surplus countries outside of Asia. The United States, Italy, Brazil, Ecuador, Spain and lesser exporting countries found a ready market for all available supplies.

The demand for imported rice was particularly urgent in Ceylon, which normally has secured rice supplies from Thailand and Burma at the beginning of each year. Late in 1952, Ceylon entered into an agreement with China to secure 600 million pounds of rice annually at relatively low prices in exchange for rubber, thus reducing the demand from the other exporting countries by that amount.

Planned imports into Japan are at about the same rate as in 1952, and those of Malaya probably will not show a significant change. Import requirements of rice in Korea are expected to continue at a high level, but Indonesia will require fewer rice imports in 1953. A new feature in that country's imports of 1952, as has been true in Japan since it began its postwar importation of rice in 1950, was the receipt of rice from several new non-Asiatic sources. These included Brazil, the United States, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Argentina.

Rice imports into the Philippines are not needed this year, in contrast with last year's imports of 139 million pounds. That country produced a crop sufficient for domestic consumption, and has scheduled for reexportation around 55 million pounds of 1952 imports.

Due to continued expansion in rice production in the countries of South America and Central America, import requirements in those areas continue to decline. Larger harvests now not only supply domestic needs in virtually all of the South American countries that were dependent on rice imports a decade ago, but also furnish sizable amounts for export. From time to time increasing quantities from these countries are being made available for export, especially Argentina, Colombia, and Peru.

Venezuela may be self-sufficient in rice in 1954, as a result of a further expansion in the acreage planted in the spring of 1953. Its rice import requirements in 1953 are expected to be held to at least the reduced level of last year. Plans in Cuba are for another substantial increase in rice production, and in certain areas of Central America, programs reportedly are under way for increases in production with a view to exporting rice.

The demand for rice in the countries of Europe does not appear to be returning to anywhere near the prewar (1936-40) level (for European rice imports in 1952, see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 22, 1953). Rather than showing an increase in 1952, imports declined about 40 percent below those of 1951, and were only about one-fifth of prewar average imports. Rice imports into Europe may have been detracted by the strong demand in the deficit countries of Asia, and to the inability of securing rice readily from the exporting countries of the world.--By L. Thelma Willahan, based in part on U. S. Foreign Service reports.

U. S. RICE EXPORTS CONTINUE AT HIGH LEVEL

United States rice exports in April totaled 1,132,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled compared with 1,295,000 bags in the corresponding month of a year earlier. Eighty percent of April exports were shipped to Asia, with 54 percent to Japan. The second largest volume went to Korea, followed in volume by Cuba, Indonesia, and Canada.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries April 1953, with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	August-July 1945-46 to 1949-50	August-July 1951-52	August-April 1951-52	August-April 1952-53 2/	April 1952	April 1953 2/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere						
Canada	399	443	356	532	23	47
British Honduras	13	22	20	2	2	0
British W. Indies	97	54	52	80	1	3/
Cuba	4,923	5,118	3,780	3,811	233	159
Netherlands Antilles	9	25	17	34	3	5
Venezuela	76	196	195	64	6	7
Other countries	104	38	30	8	2	2
Total	5,621	5,896	4,450	4,531	270	220
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	73	57	44	46	1	5
Greece	109	209	165	3/	0	0
Iceland	10	3	0	7	0	0
Switzerland	32	21	20	34	5	0
Other countries	4/ 114	1	1	3/	3/	3/
Total	338	291	230	37	6	5
Asia:						
Saudi Arabia	80	91	66	103	5	10
Ceylon	0	741	0	647	0	0
Indonesia	646	1,799	1,479	1,100	0	66
Philippines	1,136	71	3/	0	3/	0
China	796	0	0	0	0	0
Korea	98	2,821	2,461	1,430	627	220
Hong Kong	37	0	0	179	0	0
Japan	279	5,430	3,247	4,010	361	610
Other countries	23	9	6	3	1	3/
Total	3,095	10,962	7,259	7,472	994	906
Total Oceania	5	13	9	17	3	1
Liberia	36	73	73	22	22	0
Other Africa	1	4	3/	1	3/	3/
Total World	9,096	17,239	12,021	12,130	1,295	1,132

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Average of 72,000 bags to Austria, 14,000 bags to Germany, and 11,000 bags to France.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

BURMA INCREASES RICE ACREAGE FOR HARVEST IN 1953-54

Prospects appear favorable for Burma to fulfill the 1953-54 goal of its 5-year plan to increase rice production. The program this season is for an increase of 500,000 acres more than in 1952-53. During May, preparations were underway in several of the delta districts for substantial increases in rice acreage. This has been made possible primarily through improved security conditions, which enable cultivators to prepare and plow lands at a farther distance from the villages.

An average of 1,250 pounds of rough rice harvested per acre on 500,000 acres would yield 625 million pounds of rough rice (400 million pounds in terms of milled), or nearly one-fourth of United States exports in 1952.

NETHERLANDS REPORTS REDUCED WHEAT ACREAGE, INCREASED COARSE GRAIN AREA

Reduced acreage of all grains except barley is reported for the Netherlands this season. The reduction is especially marked for wheat, since this is largely a fall-seeded crop, and weather at fall seeding time was unfavorable. Heavy rains in October and an abnormally cold November greatly hindered all agricultural work and fall-sown grain acreage was sharply reduced from that of a year earlier. Winter wheat acreage showed a reduction of 37 percent from the previous year. About a third of this reduction was made up in increased spring wheat acreage, with total wheat acreage now estimated to be 21 percent below the 1952 total.

A good part of the unseeded wheat acreage went into spring barley, which shows an increase of 44 percent over the 1952 spring barley acreage. The large increase in barley acreage was attributed to the February floods which rendered the soil in much of the important crop producing area of the south unsuitable for normal crop production. As a result, many farmers in salt-flooded areas substituted the highly salt-resistant grain, barley, for their normal plantings of other grains.

A reduction of about 5 percent in oats acreage is attributed to low prices, as well as to unfavorable weather conditions. A similar reduction in rye acreage is in line with normal fluctuations for that crop. A drop of about 14 percent in corn acreage appears to have been explained by the poor corn outturn last season. The wet, cold weather in the fall ruined much of the corn crop in northern regions of the country, and thus discouraged farmers there from trying that crop again this spring.

Restoration of flooded areas progressed steadily during April and May, and by the end of May only about 10 percent of the area flooded remained under water. Strong demands for nitrogen fertilizers, largely for use on grasslands, continued throughout April and May. Stocks remained low, and daily production just about covered requirements. Farmers reduced their applications of phosphate fertilizers, however, and a large part of recent imports were stored for later use in July-September. Continued heavy imports of potash were also mainly for stockpiling. Demand for that fertilizer will decline somewhat this year because of reduced requirements in the flood-affected areas of the southwest. Lime applications have been discontinued but advance orders are large for deliveries in the late summer and fall.

Yield prospects for 1953 grain crops are somewhat below those of last year. In addition to reductions from the floods, which took some of the best and most highly mechanized land of the country out of production this year, weather this spring has been less favorable to crop development than was the case last year when yields were high.

JAPAN'S GRAIN OUTLOOK STILL INDICATES LARGE CROPS

The outlook for yields of wheat and barley in Japan were less favorable in early June than in May, but a bumper harvest is still indicated, according to a recent report of the American Embassy, Tokyo. (See Foreign Crops and Markets June 15). Yield prospects declined as a result of further assessment of damage from the unseasonal frosts of late April and heavy rains in southwestern Japan at the beginning of June. The frosts chiefly affected other crops, but did some damage to grain crops in central Japan. Heavy rainstorms caused considerable lodging in Kyushu and other southwestern areas.

Harvesting ran slightly behind normal timing but was about 30 percent completed by June 5. The first official estimate of production will be released late in June. In the meantime the Embassy estimates the wheat and barley crops to be about up to the record 1952 crops. A small decrease for wheat will be offset by gains for both common barley and naked barley. Yields of these crops are still expected to exceed the good 1952 yeilds.